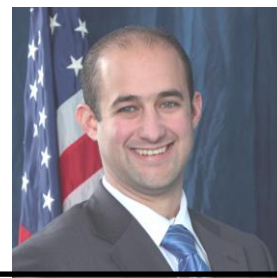


**NEWS FROM DEPUTY PRESIDING OFFICER**

# **ROB CALARCO**



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE ELECTS CALARCO AS DEPUTY PRESIDING OFFICER**

**HAUPPAUGE, N.Y.** – Today the Suffolk County Legislature held its 2016 Organizational meeting in Hauppauge, where all 18 legislators were sworn in for their new terms.

Legislator Rob Calarco, who was elected to his third term this past November, was selected by his colleagues to serve as the Deputy Presiding Officer for the upcoming year. Legislature DuWayne Gregory (15<sup>th</sup> LD), was reelected as the Presiding Officer for the third year in a row.

Legislator Calarco, who previously served as the Democratic Majority Leader for the past two years, was honored by the support of his colleagues on the Legislature. “I am truly humbled by the support my fellow legislators have shown me,” stated Legislator Calarco. “This body is truly impressive for its commitment to open discussion, the opportunity for all to be heard and all ideas to receive a public vetting. I look forward to working with Presiding Officer Gregory and the entire Legislature to achieve the common goal of doing the best we can for the residents of Suffolk County.”

Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory, who has worked with Legislator Calarco for more than a decade, is looking forward to working with his friend and colleague in this upcoming year. “It is a great honor to congratulate Deputy Presiding Officer Rob Calarco on his election to this position. I look forward to working in continued partnership with him in 2016.”

Legislator William J. Lindsay, III nominated Legislator Calarco for the position. “Rob has been an outstanding representative who has served his constituents with honor and integrity and I can attest to seeing his leadership in action on many occasions,” he said. “His uncanny ability to work across party lines and his determination to solve problems has made a tremendous impact on this Legislature, our residents and our home,” stated Legislator Lindsay.

Legislator Kara Hahn, who succeeded Legislator Calarco as the Democratic Majority Leader and seconded his nomination, has worked closely with Legislator Calarco, first as aides, and later as Legislators. “I’m proud to serve along him, not only as a member of the class of 2012, but as former legislative aides serving together now

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for a cumulative 13 years,” she said. “Together, we’ve accomplished much to drive Suffolk County forward. Rob has done a commendable job in leading our caucus over the last two years and I’m humbled to be succeeding him in that role,” Majority Leader Hahn stated.

Deputy Presiding Officer Calarco knows the road ahead will not always be smooth, as economic development, fighting the opiate epidemic, protecting groundwater and keeping young people on Long Island are among the many challenges facing the Legislature in the years ahead. “We have had a difficult task these last four years, and we have some big challenges to come,” stated Deputy Presiding Officer Calarco. However, I know this body is up to the task of debating and making the hard decisions to continue to move us forward.”



*Deputy Presiding Officer Rob Calarco being sworn in by Suffolk County Clerk Judy Pascale. He is here with his wife, Laura, his daughter, Alma Rosa, and his son, Patrick.*

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*Deputy Presiding Officer Rob Calarco represents the 7th Legislative District which includes Patchogue, East Patchogue, North Patchogue, Medford and Gordon Heights. Smaller portions of Blue Point, Bellport, Middle Island Fire Island are also included in the District. He is Chairman of the Government Operations, Personnel, Housing & Consumer Protection committee, Vice Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, as well as a member of the Health Committee and the Ways & Means Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature.*